

ITHACA FLOTILLA 22

Established 1942



News and Views

VOLUME 83 October 2023 ISSUE #10

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EDUCATION + TRAINING = SKILL

SKILL + ACTION = SAVED LIVES



Photo courtesy of Tommy Lacey and Mark Lewis

Located at the southern end of Cayuga Lake

508 Taughannock Blvd. Ithaca, NY 14850 607-273-7175

> Monthly Meetings: 2nd Wednesday 1900 Hrs. 7:00 pm

Editor: Diana Robinson Flotilla2.2.lthaca@gmail.com

News and Views is the official newsletter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Ithaca Flotilla and is intended to keep the membership apprised of the activities of the Auxiliary. All articles and photographs submitted must be consistent with the policies of the Coast Guard and the Auxiliary and may not be returned.

Ninth Eastern District

District Commodore Richard C. Evans District Chief of Staff Steven Botsford **Human Resources** George R. Taylor **District Captain Logistics** Carmella Laurer **District Captain Prevention** Paul J. Markovic District Captain Response Robert S. Brody Immediate Past District Commodore Clark Godshall Operations Robert Laurer

Division Two

Commander
Richard Kunz.
Vice Commander
Robert Shanahan
Immediate Past Commander
Robert Shanahan
Operations
Richard Kunz

Ithaca Flotilla

FLOTILLA OFFICERS

COMMANDER
Ben Gardiner II FC
VICE COMMANDER
John Frieman VFC
IMMEDIATE PAST
COMMANDER
Kevin Walsh IPFC

FLOTILLA STAFF OFFICERS

ACADEMY ADMISSIONS Dale Campbell PADDLECRAFT SAFETY **Tom Every FSO-PAD** COMMUNICATIONS **Tom Every FSO-CM** COMMUNICATIONS **SERVICES** Kim Walsh FSO-CS **DIVERSITY FC Ben Gardiner FINANCE Aaron Abb FSO-FN HUMAN RESOURCES Dale Campbell FSO-HR** INFORMATION SERVICES **Diana Robinson FSO-IS MATERIALS Bodge Hyatt FSO-MA** MARINE SAFETY John Frieman FSO-MS MEMBER TRAINING Kim Walsh FSO-MT **OPERATIONS Jamie Cornell FSO-OP PUBLIC AFFAIRS VACANT PUBLICATIONS** Diana Robinson FSO-PB **PUBLIC EDUCATION** Kim Walsh FSO-PE PARTNER VISITATION **VACANT SECRETARY** Laura Gardiner FSO-SR **VESSEL EXAMINATION** John Frieman FSO-VE



From the Helm, by Ben Gardiner

PY2 Base Boat

Tom Every and All:

Thank you and <u>sincerest congratulations</u> for your efforts and the efforts of your crew in the completion of the majority of the fuel system repairs to the Flotilla's Base Boat Facility.

While some relatively minor repairs remain, the engine starts and runs and we will continue to complete required tasks as the off season progresses.

I would also like to express my thanks to all other members who participated in some aspect of the project which began in December 2022. From physical repairs to technical guidance to financial donations to support the repairs, your contributions were important to the project's success and greatly appreciated.

Lastly, we had tremendous support and technical guidance from our new recruit Ken Coleman who lent us the expertise he developed as an MK technician in the US Coast and beyond.

No doubt in my mind, thanks to the tenacity and cohesiveness of this Flotilla, the Base Boat will be on the water in 2024.

SEMPER PARATUS.

Ben Gardiner, Flotilla Commander Flotilla 092-02-02 Ithaca, New York USCG AUXILIARY 24 October 2023

Flotilla Elections: 08 November 2023 at Flotilla Meeting beginning at 1900 hours.

Please make every effort to be present for this meeting at our Base Headquarters. Division Commander Richard Kunz will be present to oversee the election.

To date we have two (2) Declared Candidates: Aaron Abb, Candidate for Flotilla Commander and Alejandro Santana for Vice Flotilla Commander.

The Meeting of 08 November 2023 will likely be my last for this term as Flotilla Commander. I thank you all for your support, friendship, guidance, dedication, hard work, and everything else you do to ensure that the Mission of Flotilla 22 and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary is completed successfully and in a high-quality manner. It has been my pleasure to work with you all and I can sincerely say I have never served with a finer group of people. I intend to work hard in my role as Immediate Past Flotilla Commander to assist the new Flotilla Leadership in a smooth and successful transition. I know we can count on all of you to do the same.



ITHACA FLOTILLA

Flotilla Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, 11 October 2023 In Person at Flotilla Base Headquarters, Ithaca, NY.

Flotilla Commander: Ben Gardiner Flotilla Vice Commander: John Frieman

Flotilla Immediate Past Commander: Kevin Walsh

Uniform: ODU with Black safety boots or appropriate civilian attire

MEETING AGENDA

- Call to Order (Ben Gardiner) at 1905 hours.
- Pledge of Allegiance (Ben Gardiner)
- Moment of Silence (Ben Gardiner)
- O Guest Introductions / New Members: David Pierce was a guest who is considering transferring to Flotilla 22 as he and his wife are moving to the Cortland Area from Norwalk, Connecticut. Dave is an 11-year Member of Flotilla 014-07-02 in Connecticut and holds certifications as a Coxswain, PWC operator, First Aid /CPR provider, Public Affairs Specialist, and Culinary Assistant. We enjoyed Mr. Pierce's visit and he would be a welcome addition to Flotilla 22.
- o Personnel Update (Ben Gardiner): Our Members currently in sick bay.
- o Secretary's Report: FSO-SR (Laura Gardiner) September 2023 minutes sent via email. Motion to approve minutes by Bruce Ressner, seconded by Diana Robinson, motion was carried.
- Treasurer's Report: FSO-FN (Aaron Abb). Treasurer's report was not ready for distribution by meeting, so it is tabled until 08 November 2023 Meeting. [Update: The full report has since been emailed to members. Checking balance as of the end of the month was \$1040.26 and as of this report \$1245.93.
 Several dues checks are ready for deposit and several member dues still in need of payment. DR]
- 2024 Dues Collection Status (Aaron Abb). As of Meeting time at least 50% of dues had been collected with the anticipation of 100% within the next week or so. Aaron indicated that we will have a total of three (3) voluntary disensolments for 2024.

Members Present at Meeting: Aaron Abb, Carlton Cole, David Cornelius, Thomas Every, Ben Gardiner, Bruce Ressner, Diana Robinson, Walter Robinson, Alejandro Santana, David Pierce (Guest).

Division 2 Update

- ➤ Division Meeting and Elections were held on 04 October 2023. Peter Wiles was elected Division Commander and Paul Phelps elected Vice Commander.
- ➤ The Division Operations working group met again on 28 September 2023. Peter Wiles created a number of reports in AUXDATA II to aid in developi.ng Operations Members' current status and a plan to restore certified status to those Members. Attached to the agenda is a copy of the draft Report Catalog

Flotilla Commanders Update:

- Flotilla Elections on 08 November 2023 as part of the Flotilla Meeting.
- ✓ We currently have two (2) candidate letters of intent, Aaron Abb for Flotilla Commander, and Alejandro Santana for Vice Flotilla Commander. Thank you for stepping up, Gentlemen.

- ✓ You will note that the Standing Rules allow us to accept nominations from the floor on Election Night. We encourage any other qualified candidates to run for these offices.
- ✓ Division Commander Rick Kunz will be present on 08 November 2023 to oversee election for Division 2.
- EVENT 16 September 2023: Emergency Preparedness & Safety Fair on Saturday,
 September 16th from 11am to 2pm .Thanks to our Members who participated in this important event.
- Docks Out: 30 September 2023. Thanks to all Members and our Sea Scout shipmates for your fine efforts in completing the Docks Out Mission.
- ✓ Diana requests anyone who has some good photos of the Docks Out Mission to please forward them to her.
- Uniform Issues. A few issues involving are discussed below.
- Coast Guard Auxiliary Work Uniform. Policy Letter 23-02 *Auxiliary uniform and Appearance Policy Changes* was issued to all Members via email and hard copies were emailed to all Flotilla Members by the Flotilla Commander. The link below will take you directly to the policy letter

https://wow.uscgaux.info/Uploads_wowII/BX-GROUP/AUX_UA_POLICY_LETTER_024A_FINAL_28SEP23_FOR_POSTING.pdf

- The Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) is the prescribed work uniform for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. The newly adopted Auxiliary Alternative Work Uniform (AWU) is now authorized for wear ONLY if the Auxiliarist is unable to procure ODU components in the proper size. We note that some ODU sizes are unavailable and the new Coast Guard Working Uniform (CGWU) is likely two years away from being available.
- In other words, the Alternate Work Uniform is not intended to be an option unless the Auxiliarist is unable to obtain properly sized ODU.
- You will note that the new Coast Guard Working Uniform will be authorized for wear by Auxiliarists with the inclusion of Auxiliary specific insignia and name tapes.
- ✓ Proper Wear of the Uniform. This is always a critical issue as it tends to reflect on the Coast Guard as a whole. Members are expected to wear the specified uniform and only the specified uniform in accordance with all regulations and guidance for that uniform.
- Our Social Media and other Posts which feature Members in Uniform are now under close scrutiny by District.
- From Diana Robinson: "My District approving officer for newsletters loves our "News and Views," but objects to photos of Aux events where members are in "mixed" uniform. I am sorry to say this includes photos showing some members with ODU sleeves up and others sleeves down. (Or sleeves rolled incorrectly.) As you know from recent ALAUX emails, the CG is keen on Auxiliary appearance standards. We are proud of your work, so it pains me when I have to crop members out entirely."

Operations Update:

- Base Boat: As reported the Base Boat turns over but will not fire, does not appear to be getting fuel. This
 issue is going before the Corporation for resolution. It may require taking the Boat to a reputable local marina for
 repair.
- Shoreside Training Sign-offs. Dates have not been identified but this will be a priority as part of Operational Training initiative.

FLOTILLA CALENDAR – 11 October 2023

Date / Time	Event	OIC / POC	NOTES

•	Flotilla Meeting – In Person Flotilla Elections	Gardiner	Flotilla 2-2 Base
	Flotilla Christmas / Holiday Party at the Lake Watch Inn		

FLOTILLA 0920202 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS 2023					
Gardiner, Bennett C	FC	Flotilla Commander			
Frieman, John A	VFC	Vice Flotilla Commander			
Walsh, Kevin M.	IPFC	Immediate Past Flotilla Commander			
Every, Thomas J	FSO-CM	Communications Officer			
Every, Thomas J	FSO-AUXPAD	Paddle Craft Officer			
Walsh, Kim M.	FSO-CS	Communications Services Officer			
Gardiner, Bennett C	FSO-DV	Diversity Officer			
Abb, Aaron D.	FSO-FN	Finance Officer			
Campbell, Dale A	FSO-HR	Human Resources Officer			
Robinson, Diana C	FSO-IS	Information Services Officer			
Hyatt, Henry B (Bodge)	FSO-MA	Materials Officer			
		Marine Safety and Environmental			
Frieman, John A	FSO-MS	Protection Officer			
Walsh, Kim M.	FSO-MT	Member Training Officer			
Cornell, James M.	FSO-OP	Operations Officer			
VACANT	FSO-PA	Public Affairs Officer			
		Publications Officer (Newsletter			
Robinson, Diana C	FSO-PB	Editor)			
Walsh, Kim M.	FSO-PE	Public Education Officer			
		Marine Dealer Visitor Program			
Vacant	FSO-PV	Officer			
Gardiner, Laura L.	FSO-SR	Secretary – Records Officer			
Frieman, John A.	FSO-VE	Vessel Examiner Officer			

Other Flotilla Staff Officer Updates

- Old Business / Follow-up.
- ✓ Flotilla 22 Christmas / Holiday Party at Lake Watch Inn David Cornelius has been in touch with Lake Watch Inn and they will host our Party on Sunday 10 Dec 2023 from 1 PM 3 PM (1300-1500).
- ✓ From the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association

Attention Flotilla Commanders, PAO's...: For boat shows, public PA Events, Recruiting, Marina Events, Flotilla Fellowship events... get your Flotilla the new all-purpose 10-foot x 10-foot Official USCGAUX Canopy now with a grant from AuxA!

- The Auxiliary Association acknowledged receipt of our application and indicated they would get back to us when a decision on the applications is made.
- Next Meeting: Wednesday, 08 November 2023 at 1900 hours, in person at Flotilla 22 Base Headquarters. Flotilla Elections will be held that night.
- Motion to adjourn by Bruce Ressner, seconded by Diana Robinson, Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 2010 hours.

Minutes Prepared by Ben Gardiner.

DRAFT

Sample Catalog of AuxData II Training Management Reports (TRM):

Div 2 Boat crew Training

This is a series of color-coded reports indicating the status of various permanent and recurring tasks required for members with Crew and Coxswain competencies. It indicates the year permanent tasks were completed and the number of days until expiry (color coded) for recurring tasks. <u>Only previously qualified members appear in these reports.</u>

These reports **do not** track operational annual currency tasks or U/W hours (see activity reports below), but **DO** track AUXCT courses.

- TMR Div 2 Crew, Certified
- TMR Div 2 Crew, REYR/REWK
- TMR Div 2 Coxswain, Certified
- TMR Div2 Coxswain, REYR/REWK
- TMR Div2 Member OPs Prerequisite Tracking (Enter Member ID)

Div 2 Operations Activity

These reports show a list of Activity Logs grouped by member # with U/W mission codes.

- TMR Div 2 Boat Activity
- TMR Div 2 Activity Paddlecraft
- TMR Div 2 Activity PWC
- TMR Div 2 Patrol Report

Aux-Air Activity

This report shows a list of Activity Logs grouped by member # with U/W mission codes.

• TMR 9(ER) Activity AuxAir

General Member Activity

This report shows a list of Activity Logs for a specified member for all mission codes.

• TMR Div 2 Member Activity, THIS YEAR (template – Enter Member ID)

Competency Tasks

This report shows a list linked to detailed descriptions of each Competency Task related to the various surface operations' competencies.

TMR Div 2 Required Tasks - Surface OPS

Member Spotlight

Emily Mocyk has requested disenrollment from the Auxiliary. Emmy will be staying on with the Sea Scouts – indeed, as the Yeoman she now writes the Ship's monthly newsletter. We look forward to reading your updates and hope to see you at the Base from time to time!

My One Year Anniversary of Joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary

Alejandro Santana, AUXCT, BQC-II, Ithaca Flotilla 0920202



"Reaching a Milestone in the Vast Sea of the Coast Guard Auxiliary"

A Reflection from the Helm of a Shipmate's Vessel View...!!!

As I reach my one-year anniversary of joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary I reflect on the long road of the rewarding sea to navigate ahead of me. One of the key elements of my milestone one-year accomplishment is the focus, understanding, thirst for knowledge, and finding your purpose.

When joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary the main focus should be on getting yourself familiarized with the Coast Guard Auxiliary system and how things work.

Focusing on the true north makes it easier for one to quickly get the initial qualifications and then move on with the process. This will be your number one priority target and don't get over warm and deviate from the focus target. Look for guidance and put yourself in a position that will be the catalyst to propel you to the next step. There are always members who are willing to help you navigate the different stages of your journey.

Understanding your volunteer institution and its expectations. Get involved in as many activities as you can that you are allowed as you reach your initial qualifications. Doing this paves the way for meeting seasoned members who have been doing their Coast Guard Auxiliary jobs for years. They bring their bank of knowledge, experience, and guidance that will help you in your Coast Guard Auxiliary endeavors.

Be thirsty for knowledge. Knowledge has no limits and it doesn't add a heavy load on your shoulders. To the contrary the more knowledge you get the better you are prepared to better serve

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the community and the country. "Semper Paratus!" Get into any classes, and workshops that you are qualified and able to join. Get to know your people. A tool to navigate and understand the Coast Guard Auxiliary is the Auxiliary manual COMDTINST M16790.1G. It covers all the inner working parts and functions of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Yes, it is a lot of material to digest, but easy to read and understand.

Finding your purpose in the Coast Guard Auxiliary will give you a wider picture now that you are qualified. The Coast Guard Auxiliary offers a variety of ways in which you can serve and give back to your country. Choose the area that interests you and that will go in accord with the talents you bring into the family of the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. From operating a radio or culinary missions, to navigating a patrol boat or flying on an airplane there are vast options to choose from that will help you fulfill the mission of the Coast Guard.

During this year in the Coast Guard Auxiliary, I have met the most wonderful and professional people that I have ever imagined: people from all walks of life with different talents. People who bring unparalleled knowledge, love, dedication, and devotion to serve their country. Individuals who are willing to help you fulfill your goals and guide you through the process. Individuals who have come on my path and whom I respect and I am very grateful to have met on my path as I move along in the process.

A year of experience in the Coast Guard Auxiliary has prepared me to better serve my country and its people for what I am: "Semper Paratus" and "Mission Worthy"

I feel ready for the mission for,

"I am a Coast Guardsman"

I serve the people of the United States.

I will protect them.

I will defend them.

I will save them.

I am their shield.

For them I am Semper Paratus.

I live by the Coast Guard Core Values.

I am proud to be a Coast Guardsman.

We are the United States Coast Guard.

Coast Guard Core Values

- ➤ **Honor**: Integrity is our standard. We demonstrate uncompromising ethical conduct and moral behavior in all of our personal and organizational actions.
- ➤ **Respect:** We value our diverse workforce. We treat each other with fairness, dignity, and compassion.
- **Devotion to Duty:** We are professionals, military and civilian, who seek responsibility, accept accountability, and are committed to the successful achievement of our organizational goals.



Credits:

Ship's Wheel image https://www.news.uscg.mil/Doing-Business/Photos/igphoto/2003279294/
"I Am a Coastguardsman" from https://www.forcecom.uscg.mil
Coast Guard Core Values image from https://www.forcecom.uscg.mil

Life Jacket Use: Good News and Some Caveats

Diana Robinson, FSO-PB, FSO-IS

The 2022 national and New York recreational boating statistics were released earlier this year. Both were good news in general. More recreational boaters are wearing life jackets. Make no mistake: wearing a life jacket whenever you are out on the water is by far the <u>single best thing you can do</u> to prevent drowning. Let's take a deep dive into why, and the reasons life jackets can't save everyone. First, some background:

Deaths, injuries and accidents decreased. The 2022 US fatality rate was 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 1.8 percent decrease from last year's fatality rate of 5.5 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. (When the Safe Boating Act was first passed in 1971, the fatality rate was 20.6 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.)



Nationwide, 75% of all recreational boating accident fatalities were due to drowning.



Of drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 85% were not using a life jacket (US and



That means approx. 15% of drowning victims were wearing a life jacket.

Of other fatalities (trauma, hypothermia, cardiac arrest or other) with reported life jacket usage, 22% were wearing a life jacket.

Nationwide, where length of the boat was known, 3 of every 4 boaters who drowned were using vessels under 21' in length.

According to the <u>USCG Life Jacket Wear Rate Observation Study</u>, only about 15% of recreational boaters regularly wear a life jacket. https://uscgboating.org/library/national-live-jacket-wear-study/2022-Life-Jacket-Wear-Rate-Report.pdf

The 2022 New York report concludes that regarding fatalities, "... The leading cause is drowning. During 2022, 75% of all drowning victims did not wear a lifejacket. It is impossible to tell how many people have been saved by wearing a lifejacket but the potential consequences of not wearing one are clear. We also know how deadly of an impact unexpected cold-water immersion can be in both the early and late boating seasons. There are far fewer reported incidents during the cold weather months, but a much higher percentage of them result in a fatality. Cold-water immersion can overcome a victim quickly. This is because the physiology of cold-water immersion involves uncontrollable physical reactions such as a gasp reflex, hyperventilation, unconsciousness, elevated heart rate, and vasoconstriction; all of which can quickly overcome a boater in distress. A properly fastened lifejacket, along with proper cold weather clothing, is the surest way to ensure survival in cold water longer. The lack of a lifejacket, coupled with the fact that most boating deaths involve boats less than 21 feet in length, led to legislation that requires everyone on watercraft less than 21 feet to wear a lifejacket between November 1st and May 1st. Following the passage of this legislation New York has seen a decrease in the percentage of fatalities occurring during that time..."

Although based on older statistics, "The Other 20% -- When Wearing a Life Jacket Is Not Enough," by CDR Kim Pickens, US Coast Guard Reserve Operation BoatSmart Project Officer (https://www.usps.org/eddept/files/other_20_handout.pdf) makes several good observations on why life jackets don't save everyone from drowning.

- "Not even a SOLAS-certified PFD can completely prevent mouth immersions. Mouth immersions will happen; it is the <u>frequency</u> with which they occur in a specific PFD model that is a major factor in determining the classification of the PFD being tested and whether or not the Coast Guard can approve that PFD for wear." If enough water splashes into the victim's mouth or is inhaled, drowning may result. A head injury, hypothermia, entrapment, alcohol use, and improper PFD fit are among the scenarios which increase the chance of drowning.
- Smaller boats are generally more dangerous.
- Kayakers and canoeists tend to wear life jackets more faithfully than other recreational boaters, but are at greater risk of entering the water accidentally. They may become entrapped underwater. Paddlers tend to boat in remote areas, far from rescue resources or help from passersby. They frequently paddle alone or with only one other person and the vessels they use are by design relatively unstable and prone to frequent capsizings.

PFD usage has gone up since inflatable life jackets became available to boaters in 1998. However, users may not understand how they work, how they should fit or how to maintain them. An excellent review – based on their live testing -- comparing 11 brands and models was published in the July BoatUS Magazine. https://www.boatus.com/expert-advice/expert-advice-archive/2023/june/inflating-your-safety-ig. It also includes "9 Things You Should Know About Inflatables."

Obviously, the Auxiliary needs to keep promoting boating safety and life jacket usage. We should also be aware of the PFD choices available, their pros and cons, limitations and best use. ALL of them only work when worn!

Complete US and NYS statistics may be found at https://www.uscgboating.org./library/accident-statistics/Recreational-Boating-Statistics-2022.pdf and https://parks.ny.gov/documents/recreation/boating/RecreationalBoatingReport2022.pdf

SEA SCOUT SHIP 25 OCTOBER 2023

By Ship 25 Yeoman, Emily Mocyk

ACTIVITIES

At the end of September, Ship 25 recognized many members for their achievements and rank advancements from over the summer. Deegan Chase was awarded the rank of Quartermaster. Congratulations, Deegan!

Ship members also helped with the dock removal at the Ithaca Coast Guard Auxiliary base. It was great to work with Auxiliary members!

To celebrate CNY fall foliage and have fun as a group, the Ship took a trip to Letchworth State Park. Let's just say... it ROCKED! (That pun is dedicated to Jim.)

Lastly, 11 members worked on a highway cleanup. Although the work was tedious, serving the community and helping to better the environment is far worth the time.









FUNDRAISERS

Ship 25 is still collecting bottles and cans at IthaCAN and Bottle Return, 614 Elmira Rd., Rt. 13 South in Ithaca. Feel free to stop by and mention that your returns are for Ship 25, or reach out to a Ship member to arrange a dropoff/pickup!

Ship 25 is selling popcorn! Orders are due no later than October 30th. Visit www.ithacaseascouts.org for more information, or reach out to a scout!

OTHER INFORMATION

Ship 25 dues for 2024 are due to the Ship this month. Please reach out to Jim for more details. Also, if you're a Ship member and you're over 18, it is time to renew your YPT certificate! Please send your renewed certificate to Jim as soon as possible, as they are necessary to recharter. We wouldn't want the Ship to not be able to recharter, now would we? Get it done please!

MEETINGS & CONTACT

Ship 25 is continuing weekly meetings on most Fridays at 6:30pm in-person at the Coast Guard Auxiliary Base in Ithaca and via zoom.

Sea Scouts is a co-ed program for young men and women ages 13 to 20. For more details and a full calendar, contact Jim Graney at (607)-327-1226 (work/cell) or email igraney@twcny.rr.com. Additional information can be found at www.ithacaseascouts.org.